

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 8745

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, UR, EEWT
SUBJECT: MAJOR FIGURE IN WEST SIBERIAN FUEL DEVELOPMENT DIES

1. CENTRAL PRESS ON JUNE 17 CARRIED A LONG OBITUARY SIGNED BY BREZHNEV AND KOSYGIN, INTER ALIA, ANNOUNCING THE SUDDEN DEATH ON JUNE 15 OF VIKTOR I. MURAVLENKO, CHIEF OF THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION FOR PETROLEUM AND GAS FOR THE TYUMEN REGION SINCE 1965. MURAVLENKO WAS 65 YEARS OLD. ACCORDING TO THE OBITUARY, IT WAS UNDER MURAVLENKO'S DIRECT LEADERSHIP THAT IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME WEST SIBERIA BECAME THE LARGEST OIL PRODUCING REGION IN THE USSR.

2. COMMENT: A FRENCH ENGINEER EMPLOYED BY THE FRENCH FIRM CREUSOT-LOIRE, WHICH HAS EXTENSIVE DEALINGS WITH THE SOVIET OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY, TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 16 THAT MRVAVLENKO HAD DIED OF A HEART ATTACK ON JUNE 15 SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVING IN MOSCOW ON A BUSINESS TRIP. HE AGREED WITH EMBOFF'S OBSERVATION THAT LOSS OF MURAVLENKO, COMING SOON AFTER DEATH OF OIL MINISTER SHASHIN, HAD DEPRIVED SOVIET OIL INDUSTRY OF TWO VERY CAPABLE LEADERS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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